

Opinions

Volunteerism is world's glue

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It is no coincidence that many of the true patriots are volunteers in one way or another — from the highest to the lowest.

Even the Statue of Liberty exists because of volunteers. Over 100 years ago school children gave their pennies and nickels so Our Lady could have a pedestal on which to stand.

President Reagan has noted that America would come to a standstill without its volunteers. And in fact, the world would come to a standstill.

Where would it be without its zealous volunteers — the likes of Albert Schweitzer whose many years of work as a humanitarian brought him a 1952 Nobel Prize.

Through the years he built a large hospital and medical station where thousands of Africans were treated yearly. He even used his \$33,000 Nobel prize money to expand the hospital and set up a leper colony.

During the Civil War, another philanthropist-humanitarian, Clara Barton, carried supplies to soldiers and nursed the wounded on the battlefields prior to founding the American Red Cross.

Volunteers continue to be a part of our work ethic.

Jeri Winger, Provo, former president of the 10-million member General Federation of Women's Clubs and a 25-year veteran of volunteerism, recalls the work of this organization.

"Last year the federation donated \$108.5 million and 72½ million volunteer hours nationally."

She said caring for the sick and needy is a concern of the federation. An example is the hospital in Doylestown, Pa.

"In 1926 one of the chapters started an emergency room and maternity clinic and today it is a 215-bed hospital," she said.

The hospital recently expanded even more and opened a day care center.

In our own state, former state Federation President Florence Valgardson, Provo,

Recently she was president of the National Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary which does volunteer work at VA hospitals and is active in legislation for veterans — "anything of a patriotic nature."

Patriotism and volunteerism are intertwined with her life, including Provo's Freedom Festival. For the past 12 years she has served as secretary of the executive board.

"My dad was always into community service," she said, "and I think he instilled that into us."

In addition to the published awards given at Saturday's Freedom Festival Awards Banquet, a special service award was given to Georgia Cullimore Faux, Provo, who, like her father, Dr. Lloyd L. Cullimore, has given many hours to volunteer service. His story, told in Sunday's Herald, notes the role he played in the establishment of the Alcohol Control Center and the BYU Student Health Service.

Georgia is a former president of the Women's Division of the Provo Chamber of Commerce. While in office, Georgia instituted the live Nativity Christmas Pageant at the Provo City Center.

Always involved in the community, even while she was teaching part-time at BYU for 19 years, she has served on the Provo Library Board, the BYU Alumni Board, as president of Provo Handshakers, helped with early July 4 celebrations (prior to the Freedom Festival), worked with non-partisan city and county groups, and was on the Citizen's Advisory Board at KBYU.

In 1983 she was given the Utah State Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Citizen Award.

"We have the motivation, not only in the family but also in the community where the spirit of volunteerism is basic," she says.

It is people like her and Jeri and Florence; it is people like the 60 junior volunteers and the 240 adults (85 of them men) at

Warm temperatures, dry month coupled to keep flooding down

Temperatures six degrees higher than normal and the driest June in six years helped Utah Valley avoid flooding and other water-related problems during the past 30 days.

Dale Stevens, weather specialist and professor of geography at Brigham Young University, said the warm, dry temperatures evaporated 10.08 inches of water off Utah Lake during June.

"The outlook for the next 30 days is warmer and drier than normal, while the 90-day outlook is predicted to be warmer with near normal precipitation," Stevens said.

The average high for June was 89.6 degrees (83.4 is normal), while the average low was 57.7 degrees (52.5 is normal). The highest temperature recorded during June was

100 degrees on the 28th; the lowest was 51 degrees on the 11th.

June, with only .3 inches of precipitation, was the driest month since last August when .07 inches of precipitation was measured at the BYU-Provo Weather Station. In June of 1980, no precipitation fell in Provo.

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